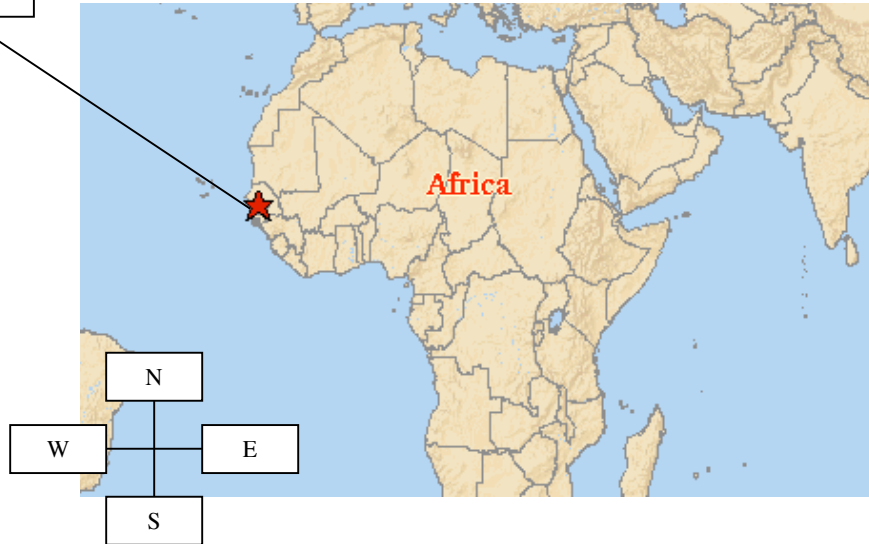


## A Trip to The Gambia

The Gambia



Make believe you are in an airplane. Your plane is coming into Africa. It will land in a country called The Gambia.

The Gambia is a small country. It is only about 30 miles wide. Most of the time it is very hot in The Gambia. It also rains a lot there. The Gambia gets about 40 inches of rain a year. It rains mostly in the summer. That is from June to October.



The Gambia is surrounded by the country of Senegal on all sides. The Gambia River runs through The Gambia.

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Banjul is the largest city in The Gambia. About 45,000 people live there. In Banjul you will see many stores and big buildings.

Banjul is an exciting city to visit. Everywhere people are on the move. But they will be happy to stop and talk to you. They will tell you how to find your way around the city.

There is a big market in Banjul. It is called the Albert Market. You can buy all kinds of clothes and food there.



Many artists sell their paintings at the Albert Market. You can also buy different kinds of masks.

After a while you will get hungry. You will want to eat. There is a lot of good food in Banjul. The food is served in large wooden bowls. Many people like black beans and rice. You may want to try that.

You may want to eat fish in Banjul. The city is on the Atlantic Ocean. So you know that the fish is fresh. Sometimes people cook fish over an open fire. You might like the fish cooked that way.

There is a big river in The Gambia. It is called the Gambia River. It is about 700 miles long. The river runs through the center of the country.

At Banjul you can take a boat down the Gambia River. You will see many interesting things along the way.

You will see women working by the river. They are washing clothes in the water. You will see people working in the fields. They are growing vegetables. People are also picking fruit from the trees.

Masks like this one are sold at the Albert Market. They are made from shiny black wood.

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Soon you will come to a town. It is called Kau-Ur. You will see a very unusual thing here. You will see many big stones. The stones are in groups. Each group of stones makes a big circle.



The stones are about five feet high. They are dark red. They are round and have flat tops. The stones are very heavy. The stones are very old. The stone circles are also very old. They are probably more than 1,000 years old.

No one really knows who made the stone circles. People who made them lived long ago. We do not know much about those people. We do not know how they lived. We do not know why they made the stone circles.

People have found things in the ground near the stone circles. People have found old bones and old dishes in the ground. The dishes were made long, long ago.

Now it is time to leave. Someday you might come back to The Gambia. But the next time, the trip will not be in your mind. The next time, the trip will be for real!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading Mini-Assessment Grade 3</b> <b>LA.A.2.2.8 Reference Form A</b></p>
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**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Read the passage “A Trip to The Gambia”, then circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. Based on the map of Africa where is The Gambia located?
  - A. in eastern Africa
  - B. in northern Africa
  - C. in southern Africa
  - D. in western Africa
  
2. Masks sold at The Albert Market are made from
  - A. old bones.
  - B. shiny black wood.
  - C. carved stone.
  - D. painted wood.
  
3. From the picture of the stone circles you can tell that
  - A. they are made of old bones and dishes.
  - B. the people who made them lived long ago.
  - C. some of them have fallen over.
  - D. they are more than 1000 years old.
  
4. Based on the article and the map, the river that runs through The Gambia is called
  - A. the Senegal River.
  - B. the Kau-Ur River.
  - C. the Banjul River.
  - D. the Gambia River.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading Mini-Assessment Grade 3</b> <b>LA.A.2.2.8 Reference Form A</b></p>
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5. The Gambia is surrounded by
- A. the Atlantic Ocean.
  - B. the country of Senegal.
  - C. the Gambia River.
  - D. the city of Banjul.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading Mini-Assessment Grade 3</b> <b>LA.A.2.2.8 Reference Form A</b></p>
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**Answer Key – A Trip to Gambia**

LA.A.2.2.8: The student identifies meanings through the process of selecting and/or organizing information from a single text that contains multiple representations of information. The complexity of the presentation will be appropriate to third grade. This process may involve application, analysis, synthesis, and/or evaluation appropriate to third grade.

1. Based on the map of Africa and the article, where is The Gambia located?
  - A. in eastern Africa
  - B. in northern Africa
  - C. in southern Africa
  - D. in western Africa**
  
2. Masks sold at The Albert Market are made from
  - A. old bones.
  - B. shiny black wood.**
  - C. carved stone.
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3. From the picture of the stone circles you can tell that
  - A. they are made of old bones and dishes.
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  - A. the Senegal River.
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5. The Gambia is surrounded by
- A. the Atlantic Ocean.
  - B. the country of Senegal.**
  - C. the Gambia River.
  - D. the city of Banjul.